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## MUSEUMS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The City of El Paso Museums and Cultural Affairs Advisory Board (MCAAB)  
Thursday – April 17, 2014 – 4:00 p.m.  
El Paso Museum of Archaeology, Auditorium

### MINUTES

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call.** Meeting was called to order at 4:15 p.m.

Roll Call	Board Member	Present	Absent
	R. Katherine Brennand		X
	Estrella Escobar		X
	Teresa Hernandez	X	
	Jeannine Kennedy	X	
	Ann F. Kruzich	X	
	Daniel Longoria		X
	Steve Lujan	X	
	Marina Monsisvals		X
	William Moody		X
	Analinda Moreno		X
	Susan Novick		X
	Isela Ocegueda	X	
	Elia Perez	X	
	Carina Ramirez	X	
	Jane B. Thomas	X	

Consecutive absences: Daniel Longoria (1<sup>st</sup>), Marina Monsisvals (1<sup>st</sup>).

Others present: Michael Tomor, Julia Bussinger, George O. Maloof III and Misty Castaneda.

2. **Call for Public Comment.** None.

3. **Discussion and Action on Approval of Minutes for March 20, 2014.** Chair began by allowing members time to review the minutes of the last meeting. Jane Thomas moved to accept the minutes as written. Elia Perez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

4. **Museum Reports.** Julia Bussinger began by introducing George O. Maloof III, who gave the Archaeology Museum report. George began by reviewing April events such as Poppies Fest and Rock Art speakers. Plans for bond project museum improvements such as an emergency exit, a new gallery and updating the diorama gallery with scientific information and improved aesthetics are moving forward. Mentioned the Education Curator will be retiring this summer, leaving the museum short-staffed with only 2 full-time employees. Los Voladores have made contact with museum staff to express interest in returning for another performance. Julia will meet with the Mexican Consulate during the first week of May, however, it may be better to bring them back in the fall of 2015 due to museum staffing issues and so as not to interfere with the 'Honoring Our Ancestors' event in October. General discussion followed.

Julia continued with the History Museum, mentioning Kidspalooza, which brought in more than 3600 attendees. She went on to say that the TouchCity 3D Digital Wall project is moving along very well, with 1400 photographs collected so far, but more are needed. Volunteers are working to scan, research and translate them, as the wall will be bilingual. The cityscape will be created using at least 2000 photographs that represent everything about El Paso. Once it is completed, it cannot be changed without incurring great expense. She further explained that the wall still needs a name, and we are behind in creating the new name. She asked for nominations that are reflective of El Paso and told members that almost every name submitted so far has already been taken. Julia briefly discussed upcoming events before concluding her report.

Michael Tomor began by reminding members the Gaspar Enriquez exhibition would close on May 11<sup>th</sup> in preparation for a new exhibit, *Vanishing Ice*, opening in June and featuring artists inspired by the glacier and

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Alpine landscapes. There are 2 Smithsonian affiliates in Dallas and Austin that have expressed interest in the Gaspar Enriquez exhibit. Michael briefly discussed current and upcoming programming, mentioning that the museum would go into full partnership with Fort Bliss, which is designated by the federal government as a provider of therapy for those returning from war zones to have Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder treatment and therapy through an art program, *Resiliency and Recovery*, that will be launched on September 13<sup>th</sup> as part of a national program. He opened the floor for questions, there were none, and he concluded his report.

**5. Discussion and Action on El Paso Museum of Art Acquisitions.** Michael Tomor began by showing images of the items for acquisition via a PowerPoint slideshow. The first item, *Hollyhocks and Mountains* by Gustave Baumann is a loan request previously approved in December 2013, but 2 more venues have been added – Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and Art Museum of South Texas. Jeannine Kennedy moved to approve the update of the loan request. Teresa Hernandez seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

The second item, a gift of Tom and Melinda Kirkland, is a series of archival black and white photographs by Jesse Kalisher consisting of *Easter in Juarez*, *On the Road to Hueco Tanks*, *Untitled Texas Weathervane*, *Untitled Cactus Abstract* and *Cowboy Abstract*. The third item, a donation from the artists Suzi Davidoff and Rachelle Thiewes, is an installation of 5 metal sculptures and 6 drawings on fabric, titled *Air Patterns*. Carina Ramirez moved to approve. Ann Kruzich seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously.

**6. Update on MCAD Strategic Business Plan.** *Item tabled indefinitely.*

**7. Tour of El Paso Museum of Archaeology.** Board members were provided a tour of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology by Curator George O. Maloof III.

**8. Adjournment.** Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Carina Ramirez moved to adjourn; Jeannine Kennedy seconded; all members voted in favor, none opposed, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m. Next meeting scheduled for May 15, 2014.

Approved for content by:  
Isela Ocegueda, Chair

Respectfully submitted by:  
Misty Castaneda, Administrative Assistant  
Museums & Cultural Affairs Department

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